ONGC has further reported that from the availability point of view (*i.e.* Rig DDKG-1 was made available by end July, 2009) and also compared to Last Purchase Price rates against ICB tenders of ONGC for similar rigs and the rates received against the Limited tender for which price bid was opened on 4.5.2009, the rates of the rig offered by M/s RIL were found to be acceptable.

Cities covered by CNG/PNG

3307. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE:
SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cities covered in the country at present by CNG/PNG;

(b) whether Government proposes to cover 200 cities by 2015;

(c) if so, the time-bound action plan to cover cities in Eastern Zone like Kolkata, Bhubaneswar, Patna and Ranchi; and

(d) the likely source of CNG/PNG to cover the cities in that Zone?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) As per information provided by Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB), 41 Gergraphical Areas are covered by CNG/PNG at present.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The development of CNG infrastructure in different cities in the country is being taken up in a phased manner. In order to promote investment from public as well as private sector for laying trunk natural gas pipelines and city/local natural gas distribution networks throughout the country, the Government of India has enacted 'The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board Act, 2006' and notified the 'Policy for Development of Natural Gas Pipelines and City or Local Natural Gas Distribution Networks'. Providing of CNG facilities in a particular city/town/area depends *Inter alia* upon proximity to trunk natural gas pipelines, availability of gas, setting up of necessary infrastructure and economic viability.

Government has issued authorization for laying of Kakinada-Basudebpur-Haldia and Jagdishpur-Haldia trunk natural gas pipelines, which would pass through the States of Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Jharkhand.

(d) The likely sources of natural gas to cover these cities are indigenous discoveries from KG basin and Mahanadi basin and Regasified Liquefied Natural Gas (RLNG) from LNG terminals.

Pipelines to supply KG Basin gas to Gujarat

3308. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state: